United Nations S/2009/522

Security Council

Distr.: General
8 October 2009

Original: English

Letter dated 8 October 2009 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to convey the attached communication dated 20 September 2009 from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, expressing appreciation for the role played by the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan and welcoming the proposed continuation of its operations.

I should be grateful if you would bring it to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) **BAN** Ki-moon

09-55079 (E) 091009

Please recycle

Annex

On behalf of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan I have the honour to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the role played by the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), authorized under Security Council resolution 1386 (2001) of 20 December 2001 and subsequent resolutions, for the wider contribution that the United Nations is making towards security and stability in Afghanistan.

The International Security Assistance Force led by NATO since August 2003 has been crucial in improving security initially in Kabul, and, through its programme of phased expansion in the north, west, south and east of the country, which is very important, has played a key role.

The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan welcomes the proposal of ISAF continuing to operate in Afghanistan until the security forces are fully able to provide security to our nation. The Government of Afghanistan is grateful to all those nations contributing resources to ISAF and to those nations that have assumed a leadership role.

I hope the Security Council will continue to reflect in its resolutions the paramount importance of fulfilling the ISAF mandate.

(*Signed*) Rangin Dadfar **Spanta**
Minister for Foreign Affairs